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SOME SOUTH JERSEY DESCENDANTS OF JOSEPH MAPES, A
QUAKER, OF SOUTHD, LONG ISLAND, AND SUBSEQUENT
MARRIAGES OF HIS SON'S WIDOW MARY.

BY LESTER DUNBAR MAPES (1944).

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SOME SOUTH JERSEY DESCENDANTS OF JOSEPH MAPES, A
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Owing to the somewhat unusual chain of circumstances disclosed by the various data assembled for this compilation, they are shown first in chronological order, followed by the deductions made therefrom, remarks pertinent thereto and the References.

THE DATA

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- (1) JOSEPH MAPES appears in the Rate List of Southold, L.I., on Sept. 16, 1675 (Ref. 1, V.2, P.448).
- (2) JOSEPH MAPES, of Southold, on Dec. 8, 1678, was granted permission to buy land at Brookhaven, L.I., and settle there (Ref. 2, Vol. 1, P.63).
- (3) JOSEPH MAPES bought property as follows:
 DEC. 10, 1678 - Land at Brookhaven from John Tooker (Ref. 2, V.1, P.64).
 JUNE 30, 1684 - Land from Thomas Osmond (Ref.3, V.2, P.325).
 SEPT.18, 1684 - House and Land at Hashamomack from Thomas Osman; witnesses - Thomas Mapes and Stephen Bayley (Ref. 3, V.1, P.422).
 DEC. 2, 1695 - Land at Southold from Constant Sylvester of Shelter Island (Ref. 3, V.2, P.327).
- (4) JOSEPH MAPES with wife Ruth Mapes and son Joseph Mapes, Jr. are shown in 1698 census of Southold, L.I. (Ref. 1, V.1, P. 673).
- (5) JOSEPH MAPES, of Southold, in 1700 requested that a Quaker meeting be established there once a year (Ref. 5, V.3, P.218).
- (6) On May 13, 1700, John Champion of Hemsted, L.I., Yeoman, had deeded to him. 330 acres of land in Gloucester County, West Jersey, on Cooper's Creek, lying between property of John Wright, John Shivers and Henry Johnson (Ref.13, Vol.21, P.684).
- (7) JOSEPH MAPES, SR., of Southold, L.I., died Jan. 5, 1706/7, and Ruth Mapes, his wife, died Dec. 15, 1712 (Ref. 4, Pages 9 and 10).
- (8) JOSEPH MAPES, son of Joseph Mapes of Egg Harbor, N.J., was born "ye 25th of 7 mo. 1714" (Ref. 12, Shelf List L.14a).
- (9) JOSEPH MAPES was drowned at Tuckahoe, N.J., on Oct. 28, 1714 and was not found until two days later (Ref. 6, V.3, P.433).
- (10) MARY STEELMAN, wife of Joseph Mapes and daughter of Andrew Steelman, was born 1714; she died 1797 (Ref. 12, Shelf List L.14a).
- (11) ROBERT CHAMPION and Mary Maypes were married by John Townsend, Justice of Peace, on June 17, 1715. At this marriage, after the groom and bride signed, the next three, as witnesses, are John Champion, Peter Corson and Deborah Corson, being, according to Quaker custom, the groom's father, and the bride's parents. (Ref. 6, V.1, P.383).
- (12) NATHANIEL CHAMPION and Mary Combe at Fall Meeting on 8th of 9th month, 1715, were accorded liberty to marry (Ref. 5, Vol. II, P.988).
- (13) JOHN CHAMPION, of Waterford, Gloucester County, N.J., dated his Will Nov. 11, 1717; it was proved Aug. 21, 1727. In it he names children: Thomas, Robert, Nathaniel, Sarah, Mary, Elisabeth and Phebe. The executors were to be son Robert and son in law John Wright. The latter, on Aug. 16, 1727 wished to be relieved from such duties saying he was ancient, weakly and sickly; on Aug. 21, 1727, Nathaniel Champion filed bond as Administrator with the Will annexed. (Ref. 14, V.1, P.87).
- (14) JONATHAN BELTON, Gloucester, and Mary Champion, Gloucester, on Apr. 19, 1728, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, Vol. 22, P.22).

- (15) EDMOND SUMMERS, Gloucester, and Mary Steelman, Gloucester, on Jan. 8, 1730, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V.22, P.363, P.383).
- (16) DEBORAH CORSON, spinster, was appointed Apr. 29, 1731 to Administer the Estate of Peter Corson, of Cape May Co., Yeoman (Ref. 14, Vol. 2, P. 113).
- (17) JOHN WRIGHT, Gloucester, and Ruth Mapes, Gloucester, on Dec. 24, 1733, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V. 22, P. 272, P. 444).
- (18) ANDREW STEELMAN, Great Egg Harbor, Gloucester Co. made his Will on Jan. 2, 1731/32; it was proved Feb. 5, 1736/37. He mentions wife Judith, sons - Frederick, James, Peter and Andrew, and daughters - Mary Somers, Judith and Susanna, the latter two not yet of age. (Ref. 14, V. 2, P. 452).
- (19) JONATHAN BELTON, of Waterford, Gloucester Co., dated his Will Oct. 4, 1735; it was affirmed Apr. 7, 1737 (Ref. 14, V. 2, P.42).
The following were mentioned therein:
Wife - Mary
Infant son - Hezikiah Belton
Daughters - Syndonia and Mary Belton
Son-in-law (supposed stepson) Joseph Mapes
Son - Peter Champion (probably stepson - L.D.M.)
In the Will Ephraim Tomlinson was named as executor, but on Apr. 7, 1737, Mary Belton, widow and relict, was named Administratrix with the Will annexed.
- (20) MARY BELTON, Gloucester, and John Eastlack, Gloucester, on June 24, 1737, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, Vol. 22, P. 122); (Mary's name spelled "Belton" under female list, P. 45).
- (21) PETER CHAMPION, Gloucester, and Hannah Thackera, Gloucester, on Oct. 14, 1740 were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V.22, P.66).
- (22) EDMUND SOMERS, Egg Harbor, Gloucester Co., dated his Will Aug. 21, 1743; it was affirmed Sept. 15, 1744.
His wife Mary was designated Executrix. His daughters were Hannah, Judith and Mary (Ref. 14, V. 2, P.447).
- (23) JOSEPH MAPES and Mary Somers were married 3-26-1746. Their children were: Edmund, born 1747, and Milisent, born 1752 (Ref. 12, Shelf List L.14a).
- (24) PETER CHAMPION, Gloucester, and Anne Ellis, Gloucester, on June 14, 1746, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V.22, P.66).
- (25) LYDOMIA (should be Syndonia) BELTON, of Gloucester, and John Dickenson, of Salem, on Oct. 27, 1747, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V. 22, P.45).
- (26) The Will of NATHANIEL CHAMPION, of Waterford, Gloucester Co., Yeoman, was dated April 19, 1748 and affirmed June 10, 1748. Those mentioned were: Wife Mary; Children, Elizabeth, Nathaniel, Sarah, Benjamin and Thomas. Wife Mary and Samuel Shivers were appointed executors. (Ref. 14, V. 2, P.90).
- (27) PETER CHAMPION, of Gloucester, Yeoman, died without a Will and Ann Champion, of Waterford, widow, was appointed Administratrix Jan. 3, 1748/49. William Ellis, same County, was fellow bondsman (Ref. 14, Vol. 2, P. 90).
- (28) MARY CHAMPION, ELIZABETH CHAMPION and SAMUEL SPICER were witnesses to Will of Jacob Roberts of Waterford, Gloucester Co. on Dec. 2, 1749. Inventory was taken by Thomas Spioer and Josiah Shivers (Ref. 14, V. 2, P. 270).
- (29) Part of the Estate of Robert Hartshorne, of Burlington, an attorney at law, who died prior to June 27, 1752, consisted of many uncollected doubtful accounts for his services; among them was one suit by the executors of John Powell, Joseph Zanes, Mary Champion and Samuel Shivers VS. Mary Easley, Executrix of Robert Champion (Ref. 14, V. 3, P. 149).
- (30) HEZIKIAH BELTON, of Salem, and Sarah Passall, on June 3, 1756, were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V. 22, P.22).
- (31) MARY SOMMERS, Gloucester, and Uriah Smith, Cape May, on August 24, 1758 were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V.22, P. 381).
- (32) Will of MARY CHAMPION, of Waterford, Gloucester Co., widow of Nathaniel, was dated Sept. 25, 1773 and proved June 7, 1782 (Ref. 14, V.6, P.76).
- (33) Melesent Mapes and John Coats (or Coate), of Gloucester, on Jan. 3, 1774 were licenced to marry (Ref. 13, V. 22, P. 70 and 272).

- (34) The Estate of JOHN COATE of Great Egg Harbor, Gloucester Co., Carpenter, was administered by Joseph Mapes, Weaver, who was appointed on June 7, 1777. His accounting was dated Nov. 3, 1777 (Ref. 14, Vol. V, P.98).
- (35) ANDREW BLACKMAN, of Great Egg Harbor, Gloucester Co. in his Will dated Nov. 5, 1785, mentions daughter Susannah Mapes and also Edmond Mapes, who, apparently, from the text of the Will, was her husband (Ref. 14, V. 6, P.46).
- (36) The Will of JOSEPH MAPES, of Great Egg Harbor, was dated Jan. 25, 1787, and the Codicil thereto Sept. 3, 1787. They were proved Dec. 6, 1787 (Ref. 11, Book 29, Folio 100).
The witnesses were Noah Smith and John Somers.
Those named of the family were:
Wife Mary
Mary Mapes, daughter of deceased son Edmund Mapes, under 21 at date of Will.
Daughter Melicent Winner, wife of John Winner, son-in-law, who was named executor.
Grandson Joseph Winner (son of John).
Some of the property bequeathed adjoined land of James Somers.
- (37) The Will of JOHN EASTLACK, of Newton, Gloucester Co., Yeoman, was dated Nov. 1, 1782 and proved May 5, 1783. (Ref. 14, V. 6, P. 128).
No wife mentioned.
Son Samuel and daughters Sarah Blake and Mary Hubbs and possibly another, deceased, by name Judith Hampton who had a son Samuel Warwick not yet 21 at date of Will.

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FROM THE ABOVE WE CAN DEDUCE THE FOLLOWING:
JOSEPH MAPES LINE:

JOSEPH¹ MAPES, a Quaker, of Southold, L.I. was in Brookhaven, L.I. as early as 1675 (No.1). He and his wife Ruth had one child, Joseph, Jr., of record in 1698 (No.4). Joseph, the father, died Jan. 5, 1706/7, and Ruth, his wife, died Dec. 15, 1712; both at Southold, L.I. (No.7).

THEIR SON:
JOSEPH² MAPES went to South Jersey (No.8). He married Mary Corson, daughter of Peter Corson and his wife Deborah (see Remarks). Joseph was drowned Oct.28, 1714 (No.9); his wife Mary survived him and married secondly Robert Champion (No.11).

THEIR CHILDREN:
RUTH³ MAPES, who married John Wright, 1733 (No.17).
JOSEPH MAPES, born 1714 (Nos. 8 and 19).

THEIR SON:
JOSEPH³ MAPES, born 25th of 7th month, 1714 (No.8), was married 26th of 3^D month 1746 to Mary Somers, widow of Edmund Somers, and daughter of Andrew Steelman and his wife Judith (Nos. 15, 18, 22 and 23). Joseph's Will was dated Jan. 25, 1787 and proved Dec. 6, 1787, (No. 36); he died between Sept. 3^D and Dec. 6, 1787; his wife survived him, dying in 1797 (No. 10).

THEIR CHILDREN:
EDMUND⁴ MAPES, born 1747 (No. 23)
MELICENT MAPES, Born 1752 (No. 23)

THEIR SON AND DAUGHTER:
EDMUND⁴ MAPES, born 1747 (No.23), married Susannah Blackman (No.35). Edmund probably died between Nov. 5, 1785 (No.35) and Jan. 25, 1787 (No. 36).

THEIR DAUGHTER:
MARY⁵ MAPES (No.36).
(See Remarks).

MELICENT⁴ MAPES, born 1752 (No.23), married
(1) John Coate in 1774 (No. 33). He died in 1777 (No. 34).
(2) John Winner (No. 36)

HER SON BY SECOND MARRIAGE:
JOSEPH⁵ WINNER.

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SUBSEQUENT MARRIAGES OF MARY (CORSON) MAPES,
WIDOW OF JOSEPH² MAPES:

MARY (CORSON) MAPES married again as follows:

SECONDLY - To Robert Champion (No.11), son of John Champion (No.13), who died in Philadelphia prior to August 21, 1727, shortly after his father.

THEIR SON:
Peter Champion (No.19) who married:
(1) Hannah Thackera, in 1740 (No. 21),
(2) Anne Ellis, in 1746 (No.24).

his wife Ann was appointed to administer the Estate (No.27).

THIRDLY - To Jonathan Bellton in 1728 (No.14), whose will was dated in 1735 and affirmed in 1737 (No. 19).

THEIR CHILDREN:

Syndonia Bellton who married John Dickenson, of Salem, in 1747 (No.25)

Mary Bellton

Hezekiah Bellton, who married Sarah Bassall in 1756 (No.30)

In his Will Jonathan mentions both of his wife's sons by her earlier marriages, calling Joseph "son in law" and Peter "son" (see Remarks).

FOURTHLY - to John Eastlack, in 1737 (No.20).

Various marriages of John Eastlack and possibly of a daughter and son are as follows:

John Eastlack and Margaret Hillman,

Licensed, Nov.8, 1735 (Ref. 13, Vol.22, P.122).

John Eastlack and Mary Bellton,

Licensed June 24, 1737 (Ref. 13, Vol.22, P.122).

John Eastlack and Patience Hugg,

Licensed 1st of 8th Mo. 1741 (Ref. 7, P.11).

Mary Eastlack and Charles Hubbs,

Licensed Dec. 15, 1749 (Ref.13, Vol. 22, P.129).

John Eastlack, Jr. and Elizabeth Read,

Licensed 29th of 5th Mo. 1751 (Ref. 7, P.11).

A John Eastlack made a Will dated Nov. 1, 1782; no wife was mentioned (No. 37).

In view of the possibility that the first three Johns may not have been the same individual, Mary Bellton might have been an only wife, a first or a second wife. We have seen no birth or baptismal records of any children of John Eastlack and Mary Bellton; Mr. Corson in Ref. 16 believes there are no such records.

Assuming that John, Jr. was brother to the four children mentioned in the will of John Eastlack (No.37), we have been able as yet to find marriage records for only Mary and John, Jr., which, from the dates indicate that the testator, the father, probably married at a date prior to 1735 the first shown above, and consequently they were not children of Mary Bellton.

Ref. 17 (V.14, P.78, V.17, P.47 and Vol. 16, P.94) discloses that when MARY CHAMPION married Jonathan Bellton Apr. 19, 1728, and when she and Margaret Hillman married into the Eastlake family, each was termed "widow". This term probably applied to Patience (Erwin) Hugg, who first married Gabriel Hugg on Apr. 10, 1728 (Ref. 17, V. 14, P.78); his Will, which mentioned wife Patience, daughter Hannah and an expected child, was dated Sept. 13, 1736 and proved Nov.3, 1736 (Ref. 14, V. 2, P.251).

REMARKS

Regarding the appearance of JOSEPH² MAPES, JR. in South Jersey, it can be noted that there is no further record of him at Southold, L.I., after the Census of 1698 (No.4)

The maiden name of Joseph's wife "CORSON" is not learned until the time of her second marriage (No. 11). That she had married both JOSEPH MAPES and ROBERT CHAMPION is ascertained by the Will of her third husband, JONATHAN BELLTON (No.19), in which, after providing for his wife and "three children", he leaves modest legacies to Joseph Mapes and Peter Champion who were, without doubt, sons of his wife by her former marriages. Joseph was called "son-in-law" instead of stepson, a common usage, and Peter was called "son". However, while Robert Champion had a sister, a wife and a sister-in-law each by name "Mary Champion", it could hardly have been Robert's sister, under the circumstances set forth, who married Jonathan Bellton.

Although JOSEPH³ MAPES, born 1714 (No.8), would have been old enough to have married before 1746 (No.23), and as we have discovered no marriage of Jonathan Bellton prior to that of 1728 (No.14), it is clear Joseph, in that event, could not, in 1735, have been a son-in-law of Jonathan's whose oldest daughter Syndonia did not marry until 1747 (No.25).

The only reference to what might be Jonathan Felton's parents shows on page 280, of Ref. 9 which mentions a Jonathan Bolton and Hannah, his wife, who were grantees in a conveyance by Robert Montgomery and his wife Sarah on Apr. 1, 1715. Jonathan Felton was a Shoemaker and came from Burlington County. The name "Bolton" sometimes has been read as "Bolton" when the form of the e in the old writing resembled an o.

An examination of the names of those present at the wedding of ROBERT CHAMPION and MARY MAPES in 1715 (No.11) discloses only one by name "Deborah Corson". This, then in connection with "Deborah Corson, spinster" appointed in 1731 (No.16) to administer the Estate of Peter Corson, might be interpreted to mean, in both cases, that she was the daughter and not the wife of Peter Corson. Nevertheless "spinster" in those early days did not necessarily mean an unmarried woman but was a sort of honorary label, or title, applied occasionally to a married woman. In this matter the latter seems to have been the case, particularly as no woman, as a rule, was appointed by a testator or the court to administer an Estate except the widow of the deceased. Mr. Orville Corson, in Ref. 16, Vol. 1, Page 33, believes she was wife of Peter and mother of Mary.

In Ref. 9, Page 368, Mr. Clement thought ROBERT CHAMPION had not yet married by 1720, and states there was a son Peter. However, by the data above we know Robert was married in 1715; furthermore Mr. Trowbridge in Ref. 10 says that Peter was born in 1716. Robert is said to have been living in Philadelphia and to have died in 1727 before his father's will (No.13) was brought for probate; this explains why he did not serve as executor but was replaced by his brother Nathaniel. We have found no Will or administration of ROBERT CHAMPION either at Philadelphia, or indexed as being at Trenton among those recorded, unrecorded or included in the Prerogative Wills. This should be borne in mind regarding a suit mentioned below.

There is no doubt that JOSEPH³ MAPES married the widow of Edmond Somers and not his daughter Mary, as the latter, probably, was only about eleven (11) years old when Joseph married in 1746. No.10 specifies Joseph married Mary the daughter of Andrew Steelman which identifies her accurately. Edmond's daughter probably married in 1758 as stated in No. 31. We are emphasizing this because of the name of "Edmond" Mapes, Joseph's son, as it is most unusual, in a subsequent marriage, to name a son after the wife's former husband.

Referring to No. 29 and the suit at law mentioned therein, we learn from Trenton that the name on the original inventory reads "Mary Easley, Executrix". This is strange for several reasons:

1. We have found no Will or Administration of Robert Champion.
2. If the name really was "Easley" she would not have been Robert's widow.
3. Two of the plaintiffs, Mary Champion and Samuel Shivers, were executors of Nathaniel Champion, Robert's brother, and if they were acting in that capacity it must have been after June 10, 1748 (see No.26), twenty-one years after Robert's death.

We might suggest that those preparing the Inventory of Robert Hartshorne's Estate (No.29) found the name spelled "Eastleg" but wrote it down "Easley". If it actually was Mary, the one time widow of Robert Champion, it means she was living at the time the suit was brought and that her then husband, John Eastlack, was not the one who married Patience Hugg in 1741 as some seem to think. The suit must have been of importance as the unpaid fee or balance thereof was £83.1.8.

Numbers showing data not covered by Remarks are included because they may be useful.

REFERENCES

- (1) Documentary History of New York - O'Callaghan.
- (2) Brookhaven (L.I.) Town Records.
- (3) Southold Town Records.
- (4) Salmon Records (N.Y. G.&B. Soc. - 1918).
- (5) Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy - Hinshaw (1940).
- (6) Historical and Biographical Miscellany of New Jersey - Stillwell.
- (7) South Jersey Marriages - Craig.
- (8) History of Cape May County - Stevens (1897).
- (9) First Settlers of Newton, N.J. - Clement (1877).
- (10) Champion Family - Trowbridge (1891).
- (11) Secretary of State, Trenton.
- (12) Society of Friends, Phila, Pa.
- (13) New Jersey Archives, First Series.
- (14) New Jersey Calendar of Wills.
- (15) New Jersey Index of Wills.
- (16) 300 Years With The Corson Families In America - Orville Corson (1939).
- (17) Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey.

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